Magazine

08 MARCH 2025

ECO-FEMINISM

to dismanthe the archaismeracy©



WOMENROLEINPHILANTHROPY EXCHANGE PLATFORM (WRIP) AIMS TO ENCOURAGE INITIATIVES LED OR INVOLVING WOMEN IN IMPACT PHILANTHROPY AND SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS.

Dare. Treat yourself and embrace.

A.-S.

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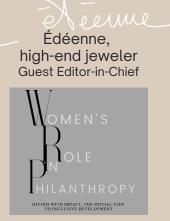


From our Chairperson

It is unconceivable in my mind, that business, academic and philanthropy are not nurtured and built (alongside males) equally with women! Feminine economy represents the true revolution of the 21st century to end the Archaismcracy© where women's voices are inaudible and their presence in a company invisible.

This special issue for the International Women's Day 2025 focus on ecofeminism because interconnexions between economy, environment protection and feminism could efficiently contribute to solve urgent issues (from inequalities to instability and climate change impacts as well as lack of governance and accountability).

Eco-feminism could accelerate the set-up of solution to handle the current polycrisis and to improve profitability in the long run in accordance with Ubuntu principle "*I am what I am only because of what we all are and represent together*". Let's then actively practice Ubuntu! With my congratulations for your engagement and my best wishes!





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interconnexions

Eco-feminism is a circular approach. From a top-down impulse that requires a strong leadership as reminded by Christina Theodorovics, CEO of Bâloise Luxembourg at the Women on Board event organized by Paperjam to bottom-up actions to implement appropriate and innovative solutions such as the Ferragamo project in Burkina Faso to empower women gathered in the Cabes GIE through ethical fashion and in using local cotton production.

NEWSPAPER



Can the European economy do without women to solve its polycrisis?

The celebration of International Women's Rights Day offers a unique opportunity for political, economic, academic and social decision-makers to adopt a binding plan to include women to their full value in all these areas. Indeed, the urgency requires us to move on from endless discussions (for or against quotas, prejudices about maledominated sectors of activity or women's role in the private and family sphere) to an inventory of the strengths and skills available to face the risks of recession, social instability and growing insecurity, or even the threat of war, and to manage the consequences of climate change.

Indeed, progress in women's rights was made in the 20th century in a more serene and prosperous context. Today's tensions are rekindling patriarchal attitudes that wrongly relegate women to the home or restrict their freedoms.

"Ubuntu", I am what I am only because of what we all are and represent together.

The solution to the sum of our problems can only be found with the entire population, regardless of

gender, ethnic or social origin, or religious or philosophical convictions. Trust is the basis of all action, and is more solid in the long term than any form of domination. The participation of women, who often commit themselves to less ambitious but more easily achievable and understandable goals, means that progress can be made more rapidly. Concrete, mutually beneficial results give women an undeniable legitimacy. So we need to enable them to get involved and take part in drawing up the rules that integrate them into production and decision-making structures. This is need without waiting for the extreme case of men leaving for the front, or for genocide to unbalance a community, a country or a continent at every level: demographic, economic (with a loss of material and financial independence), cultural and political.

The feminine economy, the revolution of the 21st century

Women's acknowledged ability to manage day-today problems with "what's on hand", common sense and a certain wisdom, are a major advantage when it comes to making the decisions needed to keep a company viable and protect the staff.

Thanks to their ability to listen in general, the benefits of collective intelligence supported by technology and using local resources where possible, including those derived from recycling, are a precious added value in this polarized world. In this way, women are taking power with soft skills such as empathy, mothering and compassion, which are extremely useful in times of declining growth, lack and fear.

Their fragility is transformed into strength, and their skills enable them to adapt to rapid change and fierce competition. Women involvement in the decision process could not be postponed anymore!

ADAPTABILITY AND FORCED LIFESTYLE CHANGE

A crisis in general entails acute risks of tension and even conflict. The challenge is above all to limit shortages and maintain a minimum level of employment. If the worst comes to the worst, the war meets the economy same objectives, even if they become difficult or impossible to achieve. It is on the basis of economic recovery that the structures of a society battered by a climatic or human disaster, or by a large-scale epidemic, will be consolidated.

The state of necessity makes adaptability and innovation effective and indispensable, as does a change in lifestyle towards greater inclusion and less waste.

Survival of the human species depends on it! Numerous initiatives and financing structures in the form of loans, guarantees, subsidies or co-creations could rapidly provide a springboard for these systemic changes. For 40 years, the European Management Development Network has been working with companies, organizations and networks to build inclusive leadership. To boost employment and reduce poverty in the European Union, employment and reduce poverty in the European Union, the European Investment Bank reminds us that "women

need public and private support.... Failure to take full advantage of women's entrepreneurial potential has an economic and social cost". Public loans could condition the use of funds on the financing of entities or initiatives run by at least 40% women.

ECO-FEMINISM VERSUS ARCHAISMCRACY©

Archaic economic regimes are sometimes compared to authoritarian systems, where women's voices are inaudible and their presence in a company invisible. To dismantle this system and re-establish not only а democratic balance within society but also the profitability of an activity, eco-feminism is all the more justified in the face of the climate emergency, the fight against rising inequality, extremism, the manipulation and simplification of information, the depletion of vital arable land, resources (water, forests, polluted air, etc.) or the tensions surrounding the minerals needed for the energy transition.

Raising awareness of the positive impact of these risks requires education, including the re-learning of critical thinking skills, and raising awareness among men and women leaders. It also involves the crucial role of new powerholders (consumers, the new generation and the Global South) and economic players. Weakened by constant change - fierce competition, heavy regulations, higher energy costs - the latter must innovate to retain their market share, reputation and financing, drawing on all their assets and skills, and banking on diversity.

An economic solution can limit human and climatic risks. The United Nations notes that women and children are 10 times more likely than men to die as a result of natural disasters, and Unicef reports that in 2024 "more than 473 million children - more than one in six children worldwide - currently live in conflict-affected areas". To avoid such loss of lives, an economic system that involves men and women in an inclusive way, and takes into account the interests of all stakeholders, also becomes a powerful weapon against all forms of authoritarianism and setbacks to human progress. While the arms industry contributes to deterrence, it remains profitable only for a few, and generates reconstruction costs that will become increasingly unaffordable given the colossal deficits of governments. Once peace and security have been restored, the consultative committees will also benefit from being made up of women from the various parties to the conflict, who are leaders in the field and who will help restart life. The stronger these women are economically, the more important and beneficial their place will be in society at large.

Virginie Issumo, global coordinator



Civil rights march on Washington, D.C. by Warren K. Leffler, 1963, Year, Prints & Photographs Division, Library of Congress.

Testimonial of CHRISTINE THEODOROVICS PAPERJAM 10X6 WOMEN ON BOARD, 25 FEB. 2025

"YOU NEED TO BE MORE VISIBLE, TAKE YOUR PLACE, INCLUDE OTHER WOMEN. CHANGE CAN NOT WAIT"



CEO OF BALOISE LUXEMBOURG AND MEMBER OF SEVERAL BOARDS OF DIRECTORS, CHRISTINE THEODOROVICS HAS BEEN ABLE TO DRAW ON HIS PASSION FOR SPORT THROUGHOUT HIS CAREER, AND IN PARTICULAR ALPINISM, DIVING AND RUNNING, WHICH HAVE TAUGHT HER RESILIENCE, SELF-CONTROL AND DISCIPLINE.

"SPORT GIVES ME A LOT: *MENS SANA IN CORPORE SANO*. SPORT HAS TAUGHT ME PERSEVERANCE.

IN GENERAL, I THINK SPORT BOOSTS SELF-CONFIDENCE AND HELPS YOU MANAGE STRESS BETTER.

YOU CAN DISCOVER HER SIX MINUTES SPEECH ON

HTTPS://PAPERJAM.LU/ARTICLE/RETROUVEZ-LINTERVENTION-DE-CHRISTINE-THEODORVICS



CABES GIE ("COMMERCE ET ARTISANAT POUR LE BIEN-ETRE SOCIAL -GROUPEMENT D'INTERET ECONOMIQUE") BURKINA FASO

According to the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report, which measures the relative gaps between women and men in four key areas (health, education, the economy and politics), Burkina Faso ranked 120th out of 146 countries in 2024.

Ferragamo's contribution has been delivered directly on the ground to EFI's European partner, MANUSA Cooperative Sociale, an Italian social enterprise employing 14 women, 12 of whom are migrants and asylum seekers of various nationalities, mostly from Africa, belonging to vulnerable groups

Ferragamo for artisan communities in Burkina Faso to promote women's empowerment through the Ethical Fashion Initiative

Florence, February 10th, 2025

Ferragamo has partnered with Ethical Fashion Initiative (EFI), a programme of the International Trade Centre (ITC), the United Nations' small business agency, to address a critical gap in the artisanal cotton supply chain in West Africa, which has a predominantly female workforce.





MANUSA provides development services to <u>CABES GIE</u> ("Commerce et Artisanat Pour le Bien-Etre Social – Groupement d'Interet Economique"), an Economic Interest Group and social enterprise created by EFI as a network of 91 productive entities and 2400 artisans, mostly women, in Burkina Faso, specialized in the artisanal production of handwoven Faso Dan Fani.

Source (text and pictures) :

https://ethicalfashioninitiative.org/stories/ferra gamo-for-artisan-communities-in-burkina-fasoto-promote-womens-empowerment-throughthe-ethical-fashion-initiative

